

**Date:** March 11, 2021  
**To:** State Board of Agriculture members – Workgroup B  
**From:** Karla Valness, Special Assistant to the Director  
**Subject:** Resolutions

Board of Agriculture Workgroup B will hold a work session on Wednesday, March 24 at 5:30 pm to continue the review and discussion on the resolutions listed below. Work sessions are open to the public.

**Proposed action: ACTIVE Resolutions - For review and discussion\***

Resolution	Title	Workgroup B--ODA Lead: Jim Johnson, Isaak Stapleton, Jess Paulson Board members: Boyer, Hallock, Johnson, Zielinski
266	Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	
314	Permitted uses on lands zoned exclusive farm use and on high-value farmland agricultural land	

\* The State Board of Agriculture will be accepting public comment on these resolutions during public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda for the meeting in May 2021.

## Public Comment

All proposed revisions to resolutions made during the March 24 work session will be posted on the State Board of Agriculture webpage prior to the May 18-19, 2021 board meeting for public comment. Please note the Board of Agriculture requests public comments address specific issues and propose specific language changes to resolutions under review.

Written comments – All written comments received will be posted on the ODA website and will be provided to the Board in advance of the meeting. Submit your written comments by email to: Karla Valness at [kvalness@oda.state.or.us](mailto:kvalness@oda.state.or.us) by **5:00 PM on Thursday, May 6, 2021**.

Verbal comments – Verbal comments are limited to three minutes and will be heard in the public comment period at approximately 10:30 AM on Wednesday, May 19, 2021. In order to provide verbal comment, you must contact Karla Valness at [kvalness@oda.state.or.us](mailto:kvalness@oda.state.or.us) by **5:00 pm on Thursday, May 13, 2021** and provide the following information:

- Your first and last name
- The topic of your comment
- The telephone number you will be using when calling the meeting

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	<b>Number:</b> 266 <b>Effective Date:</b> 09/21/2017
<b>Sub-Committee:</b> Government Relations <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Kathryn Walker	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2021 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 09/21/2017 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 03/17/2005
<b>Board Chair:</b> Barbara Boyer	Signature on file

## Proposed action:Active Resolution for review and discussion

### Background

WHEREAS, employees' rights to form or join a union should continue to be protected by federal and state laws;

WHEREAS, neither federal nor state law provide for collective bargaining rules and regulations for Oregon farm workers and Oregon farm employers;

WHEREAS, the Oregon State Board of Agriculture does not believe that this represents a free and fair process to determine whether or not a majority of workers support forming a union;

WHEREAS, Oregon agricultural employers have for many years supported the establishment of Oregon law that would enable equitable rules and regulations to control collective bargaining for Oregon farm workers and their employers;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Oregon agriculture to ensure a fair process for collective bargaining.

WHEREAS, the bargaining process is free of coercion to ensure a fair process for all parties involved.

### Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture supports extending collective bargaining protections to Oregon agriculture.

## Proposed action:Active Resolution for review and discussion

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Permitted uses on lands zoned exclusive farm use and on high-value farmland agricultural land	<b>Number:</b> 314 <b>Effective Date:</b> 02/17/2017
<b>Sub-Committee:</b> Land Use <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2021 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 02/17/2017 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 12/04/2014
<b>Board Chair:</b> Barbara Boyer	Signature on file

## Proposed action:Active Resolution for review and discussion

### Background

Whereas over 50 land uses are permitted in the exclusive farm use zone up from 5 land uses that were initially established by state law.

Whereas increasingly there are cases of nonfarm land uses and related activities presenting compatibility issues with farming practices and presenting implications to rural infrastructure and services.

Whereas there is increasing concern being expressed about the cumulative impact of the conversion of agricultural lands by nonfarm land uses such as aggregate mining, wetlands development, public and private parks, other recreation uses, schools, energy generation and transmission facilities and urban services such as landfills.

Whereas many of the nonfarm uses that may be “permitted outright” on lands zoned for exclusive farm use may be approved without any consideration of compatibility with surrounding farming practices.

Whereas high-value agricultural soils compose less than 8% of Oregon’s total lands and less than 6% of the lands located outside of urban growth boundaries that are also designated for agricultural use under Statewide planning Goal 3,

Whereas the total area of irrigated, harvested cropland in the state comprises 16% of the total land in farms yet accounts for 36% of the total market value of agricultural products sold,

Whereas irrigation and the necessary delivery infrastructure is key to maintaining the viability of and to growing the state’s agricultural industry,

Whereas the 2013 Legislature will likely directed the State Department of Agriculture and the Department of Land Conservation and Development to analyze and report on the conflict between farm and nonfarm uses and cumulative impact of permitted uses on land zoned for exclusive farm use.

### Resolution

Be it resolved, the Oregon State Board of Agriculture does not support the inclusion of additional non-farm, permitted uses on high-value farmland as defined in ORS 195.300(10).

Resolution number: 314

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Resolution title: Permitted uses on lands zoned exclusive farm use and on high-value farmland agricultural land

The Board recommends:

1. A reexamination of land uses currently permitted within the exclusive farm use zone with the goals of reducing those permitted uses and determining which land uses should be permitted outright opposite to those that should be permitted subject to land use review.
2. Establishing review criteria to evaluate the compatibility of nonfarm land uses with farm uses in surrounding areas.
3. An examination of the need to better define what certain nonfarm land uses include.
4. Establishing land use regulations that provide for the recognition of high value agricultural areas and that establish requirements to provide a higher degree of protection for identified areas with a goal of avoidance. When reasonable alternatives do not exist and high-value agricultural land is determined to be needed for the siting of a nonfarm land use, the Board supports siting on high value agricultural land only upon a determination that the proposed nonfarm use does not or can be mitigated to not adversely impact farming operations in the area.

The Board also recommends that any study designed to evaluate the implications of nonfarm land uses include an analysis of the cumulative impact of the approval and location of all nonfarm uses on lands zoned exclusive farm use. Such an evaluation should include analysis related to:

1. the conversion of agricultural lands; and
2. the implications of conflicts created by nonfarm land uses on the short and long-term ability of surrounding farm and ranches to operate efficiently and effectively.

## Proposed action:Active Resolution for review and discussion